

# Application Instructions

## Applicant Status

You should apply to RIT as a *freshman* if you are currently in secondary school or have graduated from secondary school but have not yet attended college. You should apply to RIT as a *transfer* if you have attended any college *after graduating* from secondary school. Special information regarding admission as an Early Decision freshman, NTID or HEOP candidate is provided below.

## Early Decision Plan

If you're applying to RIT as a freshman and have identified RIT as your *first choice* college, you may want to apply for an early review of your application through our Early Decision Plan. Please note that this plan is not an option for transfer applicants.

To apply for Early Decision, you should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of your application and return your completed form along with all supporting credentials (including transcripts, SAT or ACT scores, and recommendation) by December 15 in order to receive your Early Decision notification by January 15.

Students who select RIT as their first choice college after December 15 may file an Early Decision application until February 1 and will generally receive a decision notification two to three weeks after all documents have been submitted.

*If you are accepted to your designated first-choice academic program at RIT under the Early Decision Plan, you must agree to withdraw applications to other colleges and submit a \$200 enrollment deposit by February 15.*

Early Decision candidates who are not accepted will, in most cases, be asked to submit midyear senior grades and will be reviewed a second time as part of the Regular Decision group of applicants. Candidates who are accepted to an alternate (second or third choice) program of study may request to be released from the conditions of the Early Decision Plan.

Early Decision candidates who desire an early estimate of financial aid eligibility should submit an "early version" financial aid application to RIT. This form will be mailed to all Early Decision applicants for admission.

## Regular Decision Plan

Most applications for admission to RIT are reviewed under our Regular Decision Plan. All transfer applicants, international applicants, and freshman applicants other than those choosing to apply as Early Decision candidates (see above) are reviewed as Regular Decision candidates.

Under this plan, freshman applicants for fall quarter (September) entry who have provided *all* required application materials by February 1 will receive admission notification by March 15. Freshmen who apply for fall quarter admission after February 1 are notified of admission decisions on a space-available basis four to six weeks after their application is complete. Candidates who submit their applications and academic records by February 1 will be considered for RIT Presidential Scholarships (merit based) and the RIT Honors Program.

All applications for transfer admission, and all freshman applications for winter, spring, or summer quarter entry, are reviewed on a "rolling" basis, with notification letters mailed four to six weeks after the application is complete. All applications filed by international students are also reviewed and notified on a "rolling" basis.

## NTID and NTID-Sponsored Applicants

Deaf or hard-of-hearing students may apply for admission to programs offered at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) or to any other college of RIT. *All applicants with a severe hearing loss should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of the application in order to qualify for educational access and support services (such as sign-language interpreters, notetakers, tutors), as well as NTID's federally-supported tuition rate.*

Applications for NTID's associate degree programs are reviewed on a "rolling" basis, with admission notification four to six weeks after all materials have been received. Applicants seeking admission to programs offered by other RIT colleges should follow the application instructions for RIT's Early Decision or Regular Decision Plan.

## Higher Education Opportunity Program

The Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) provides educationally and financially disadvantaged residents of New York State with access to independent colleges and universities throughout the state by providing special academic support services and financial assistance.

New York State residents who wish to be considered for admission through HEOP should check the box for HEOP admission in the Applicant Status section. HEOP candidates must also be prepared to submit financial documentation to determine HEOP eligibility. The Undergraduate Admissions Office will request this information once your application has been received. *Please contact our HEOP Office at 585-475-2221 to discuss HEOP financial eligibility guidelines before applying.*

HEOP admission is available only to students who have not previously attended college, or to transfer students who were part of their previous college's EOP or HEOP program. Candidates are encouraged to request a waiver of the normally required \$50 application fee if payment of this fee presents a hardship.

### International Applicants

International students may use either this application form or RIT's International Student Application. Students whose native language is not English must submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination. International applicants applying for fall quarter (September) admission should have all educational records and admission materials on file by May 1. Applications are reviewed on a "rolling" basis, with admissions notification four to six weeks after all materials are received by RIT. International applicants who are deaf should apply for support services provided through the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID).

### Program Selection

When you apply for admission to RIT, you are asked to select a specific academic program as part of our admission process. This is important because we offer a variety of academic programs, and admission requirements may differ from one program to another. In this section, you will select the academic program you want to study at RIT. *The programs and their corresponding codes are listed on pages C and D. Please refer to this list when indicating your program choice.*

If you do not feel ready to select a specific academic program, you may apply for admission to one of the "undeclared option" programs offered by several RIT colleges, or choose the RIT Exploration Program offered in our College of Liberal Arts.

If you do not meet the requirements for admission to your first choice program of study, or if that program has filled all available spaces, you will not be offered admission to that program. You may, however, be offered admission to a second or third choice alternate program if you have selected one. Applicants who choose second or third choice programs from different schools or colleges within RIT are more likely to be qualified for admission to one of their chosen programs.

### Academic Transcripts

This application packet includes a Secondary School Transcript Request Form. If you are applying for freshman admission, you should submit this form to your high school guidance office to be completed and returned to RIT with an official copy of your transcript.

If you are a transfer applicant, you should request immediate forwarding of official college transcripts from all colleges previously attended. If you have completed fewer than

30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours, you must also submit official secondary school transcripts. If you are currently enrolled in college, please be sure to complete the Transfer Course List to indicate any courses you will complete before entering RIT. This form is included in our transfer application packets. You may also download or complete the form on the Web at [www.rit.edu/admissions](http://www.rit.edu/admissions).

### Portfolio Requirements

All students applying for admission to the School of Art, School of Design, School for American Crafts, or NTID's Art and Computer Design program must submit an art portfolio for consideration. The portfolio should consist of ten to twenty 35mm slides of the student's best work.

Students who wish to make special arrangements to show their art portfolio while visiting campus should contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

Transfer applicants to the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences seeking credit for previous photography courses must submit a photography portfolio for credit evaluation. Photography portfolios are not required for freshman admission.

### Required Admission Tests

All freshman applicants must submit results from the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT-I) of the College Entrance Examination Board or ACT assessment scores from the ACT Testing Program. Applicants are encouraged to have the testing agency send SAT or ACT scores directly to RIT or to have test results included on their high school transcript.

International students whose native language is not English must submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and are encouraged to submit SAT or ACT results if available.

### Honors Program Admission

Prospective students begin the Honors Program admission process by submitting RIT's Application for Undergraduate Admission along with their secondary school transcripts and SAT or ACT scores. These application materials must be submitted no later than February 1. Applications post-marked by February 1 are reviewed by the Undergraduate Admissions Office to select a limited number of candidates who are then invited to submit additional application materials required by the Honors Program.

### Applying on the Web

You may complete and submit our application on the Web at [www.rit.edu/admissions](http://www.rit.edu/admissions). You may also download and print the application.